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December 17, 2001

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: 03715.0101

Box Patent Application
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231



New U.S. Patent Application

Title: Process for depleting in monovalent cations a water intended
for nutritional purposes

Inventor: Pierre AIMAR
Address: Toulouse, France

Inventor: Patrice BACCHIN
Address: Gargas, France

Inventor: Catherine BRAMAUD
Address: Bordeaux, France

Inventor: Henri JAUFFRET
Address: Antony, France

Inventor: Christine RAPHAEL
Address: Clermon-Ferrand, France

Sir:

We enclose the following papers for filing in the United States Patent and
Trademark Office in connection with the above patent application.

1. A check for \$740.00 representing the filing fee.
2. Application 11 pages, including abstract and one figure, independent
claim 1 and 8 claims total.

Applicants claim the right of priority based on France Patent Application No.
0016645, filed on December 20, 2000.

Please accord this application a serial number and filing date.

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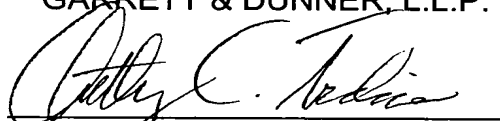
This application is being filed under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(f). Applicants await notification from the Patent and Trademark Office of the time set for filing the Declaration.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional filing fees due and any other fees due under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or § 1.17 during the pendency of this application to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

By:



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